

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11-13, 17, 19, 20, 22-25, and 38 were previously pending and allowed in this application. Claims 7-9 were rejoined by the Examiner at the time a Notice of Allowance was issued. Claims 7-9 are currently amended. No claims are canceled. No new claims are added. As a result, claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 11-13, 17, 19, 20, 22-25, and 38 remain pending, with claims 1 and 17 being independent claims. No new matter is introduced.

Claims 7-9 are currently amended, in a manner similar to claim 6, to bring them into greater conformity with claim 1 from which they depend.


If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office determines that an extension is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 23/2825 referencing docket no. A0871.70000US01.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 23/2825 under Docket No. A0871.70000US01 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,
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